

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL MEETING



Chairperson
Mark Krogstrand

Vice Chairperson
Nora Svatos

Panel Functions

- Advise the SEA of unmet needs within the State in the education of children with disabilities
- Comment publicly on any rules or regulations proposed by the state regarding the education of children with disabilities
- Advise the SEA in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under section 618 of the Act
- Advise the SEA in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports under Part B of the Act
- Advise the SEA in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities
- Review and comment on final due process hearing findings and decisions
- Advise on eligible students with disabilities in adult prisons- The advisory panel also shall advise on the education of eligible students with disabilities who have been convicted as adults and incarcerated in adult prisons

Panel Priorities

- State Performance Plan
- Child Find
- Ensuring quality service providers are available to children with disabilities

Minutes
October 5th, 2009

Members Present	Members Absent
Lisa Heckenlaible	Heather Stettnichs
Todd Christensen	Michelle Greseth
Bernie Grimme	Greg Riley
Nora Svatos	Lori Dennison
Greg Cooch	Kerry Larson
Judy Hoscheid	
Mark Krogstrand	
Gail Eichstadt	
Jim Dunston	
Laura Johnson-Frame	
Elaine Roberts	
Roger Bowie	
Sarah Carda	
Sara Hoogheem	
Marie Ivers	
Jolie Tostenson	
Shelly Shaw	

Guests	
John Copenhaver	Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center
Micky Wienk	TIE, Rapid City
Margie Morrison and student panel	Adult Transition Program

Department of Education	
Ann Larsen	State Special Education Programs Director, SD DOE
Alicia Schoenhard	Program Specialist, SD DOE
Merle Doolittle	DOE - Special Education Secretary

Public	
None	

Acronyms used:

SPP: State Performance Plan
 APR: Annual Performance Report
 SEP: State Education Program
 OSEP: Office of Special Education Programs
 SD DOE: South Dakota Department of
 Education
 TSLP: Transition Services Liaison Project

Opening Remarks

Mark Krostrand, Chairperson, began by welcoming members, and reviewing the agenda and minutes with the panel. The panel welcomed eight new members, six of which attended an orientation dinner with John Copenhaver the previous night.

Approval of the Agenda

Action Item - Members to accept agenda for the **October 5th and 6th, 2009** Meeting. The agenda for the beginning time of the 10/6/09 meeting was adjusted to 8:30 AM.

Motion to accept:	Bernie Grimme
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Second motion to accept:	Judy Hoscheid
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Panel Vote:

Yes	All Members
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No	None
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Abstain	None
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Approval of Minutes

Action Item - Members to accept the **June 24th, 2009** Minutes. Changes will be made to reflect the number of new members joining.

Motion to accept:	Bernie Grimme
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Second motion to accept:	Dr. Gregory Cooch
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Panel Vote:

Yes	All Members
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No	None
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Abstain	None
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Public Comment

There was no comment from the public.

Minutes Approved (As Read) (As Amended)

Chairperson_____

Signature

Date

National Updates

Presented by

John Copenhaver, Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center

John discussed emerging regional and national issues. He briefly summarized information from the orientation dinner the previous night, and thanked the panel for providing a time for the new members to gather and meet one another. The top issues John presented on include the SPP, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, reauthorization of IDEA, Section 504, FERPA, Supplemental Regulations, General Supervision, Sanctions and Restraints of children with disabilities, and Meaningful Parent Involvement. John suggested the panel bring in a district in two to three years to show how they have used the money and how they were affected, how it impacted services to students. When speaking about the reauthorization, he suggested that the panel discuss what they believe is working and what is not working, and present this to OSEP during the next visit. John addressed that districts need to have policies and procedures in place for Section 504, and need to have a 504 coordinator if they have 15 or more staff members. Concerning FERPA, he suggested trainings for paraprofessionals, substitute teachers, and volunteers for safe storage of student files and e-files. He also suggested a one hour presentation on general supervision, and also sanctions and restraints of children with disabilities, which South Dakota does not currently have a policy regarding. The panel may provide suggestions concerning this.

Special Education Programs Updates

Presented by

Alicia Schoenhard and Ann Larsen, Special Education Programs, SD Dept. of Education

Ann and Alicia informed the panel that the Parents Rights Handbook were updated in July 2009, and are now available on the SD DOE website. The panel was invited to attend SPP Stakeholder meetings held in November and December to discuss target setting and activities for the Indicators. The panel was also updated on the following indicators, 6 - Preschool Settings, 7 - Preschool Skills, 8 - Parent Involvement, 11 - Initial Evaluation Timelines, 12 - Part C to B Transition, 13 - Secondary Transition. The new graduation requirements were discussed, including compulsory attendance to age 18, and the GED Preparatory Program. PBIS, Center for Early Literacy Learning (CELL), and RtI were among the Special Education initiatives that were discussed. The panel was shown were to find new and updated publications and forms and technical assistance guides, listservs, and regional representatives on the DOE website.

Response to Intervention Data Report

Presented by

Micky Wienk, TIE

Micky gave a report on year 2 of the Response to Intervention (RtI) initiative in South Dakota. This report included SD DOE project commitments, as well as pilot district commitments. Micky also provided the panel with results from the evaluation summary that was conducted last Spring involving teachers and administrators participating in the South Dakota RtI pilot project.

American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA)

Presented by

Ann Larsen, Special Education Programs, SD Dept. of Education

Ann presented to the panel how ARRA funds were being distributed to school districts in the South Dakota, and what district are allowed and not allowed to spent these funds on at this time. The amounts allotted to each district can be found online. Current South Dakota law restricts what these funds can be used for. If this particular rule is changed, schools will be able to reapply to use moneys for additional purchases.

Adjourn for the Day

Action Item: Meeting to adjourn for the day and reconvene October 6th at 8:30 AM.

Motion to accept:	Laura Johnson-Frame
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Second motion to accept:	Jim Dunston
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Panel Vote:

Yes	All Members
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No	None
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Abstain	None
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October 6th, 2009

Panel reconvenes

Title II, Part A Federal Visit

Presented by

Alicia Schoenhard, Special Education Programs, SD Dept. of Education

Alicia presented to the panel the findings from the recent Title II, Part A federal visit. The review involved the state's progress in meeting the highly qualified teacher provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) and the state's administration of the ESEA Title II, Part A Improving Teacher Quality State Grants program. Items that needed further action concerning Special Education in South Dakota were presented to the panel, along with actions that have been taken to correct these concerns. The US Department of Education's recommendations were shared as well as their commendations on actions that the state program has in place.

Vocational Rehabilitation

Presented by

Bernie Grimme, SD Dept. of Human Services

Bernie showed the panel a brief video sharing information about Vocational Rehabilitation, and services that are provided to individuals in South Dakota. He also spoke about programs in place such as the Transition Liaison Services Project (TSLP), Project Skills, and the Youth Leadership Forum (YLF). Bernie also showed a brief video about Project Skills, which is a work experience program for high school students with disabilities. This program is a cooperative agreement between Vocational Rehabilitation and local school districts. Through Project Skills, students have the opportunity to learn different skills in a variety of job placements, and are assigned a job coach.

Adult Transition Program

Presented by

Margie Morrison, Rapid City School District

Student Panel - Alex, Patrick, Michael, Rachel, Alex and Melissa

Margie began by informing the panel what the Adult Transition Program is and who is eligible. This includes students at the high school level, who need transitional services. They are provided job training, home/independent living skills, such as cooking, balancing a checkbook, managing a bank account, and budgeting. The program has recently moved to Western Dakota Technical Institute in Rapid City. Students have the opportunity to be dually enrolled and obtain an associates degree while attending the campus. Students may be placed at Black Hills Special Services Cooperative and Black Hills Workshop. They are also provided help with applying for SSI and SSDI, and Pennington County housing. The students are also provided assistance with transportation, studying for driving exams, Rapid Ride schedules, bus schedules, and the transit system. Margie informed the panel that more and more of the Adult Transition Program students are moving into independent living facilities while still in the program so they are encountering these issues in "real life" experiences.

The student panel then spoke about their experiences in the Adult Transition Program. Their experiences include, volunteer work at the local school district, assistance with shopping and cooking, bill paying, transportation, getting a driver's license, working at local businesses, communication and making friends.

Students in the Adult Transition Program are eligible until the end of the school year when they turn 21 years old. The program supports an average of twenty-five students, but may vary.

Miscellaneous Topics

- ❖ Bullying - Elaine Roberts, Center for Disabilities
- ❖ CASE - Mark Krogstrand, School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- ❖ South Dakota Scorecard
- ❖ Board of Education Rules Updates
- ❖ Membership Contact list updates
- ❖ Miriam Kurtzig Freedman Books
- ❖ Governor's Proclamation - October, Parent Involvement Month
- ❖ Kids Included Together (KIT) video will be shared during the January meeting

Yearly Planning

- ❖ Focus on Panel Functions
- ❖ Review Existing Priorities
- ❖ Begin Establishing New Goals and Priorities

The panel reviewed the current Priorities and Activities, and decided to hold discussion about these at the upcoming meeting in January. Panel members are encouraged to send suggestions for priorities to be discussed at the next meeting to Alicia.

Schedule Upcoming Meeting

The panel agreed on holding the January meeting in Pierre on the 6th and 7th, and the April meeting in Sioux Falls on the 19th and 20th. Panel members are encouraged to contact Alicia with agenda items and/or speakers.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn	
Motion to accept:	Dr. Gregory Cooch
Second motion to accept:	Gail Eichstadt
Panel Vote:	
Yes	All Members
No	None
Abstain	None

Reminder

Next Meeting: We will meet at AmericnInn in Ft. Pierre on January 6th and 7th, 2010